

Connecticut General Assembly  
Environment Committee  
March 4, 2016

SB-233 An Act Concerning A Reduction of Consumer-Based Packaging Materials

My name is John Chunis. I live at 40 Deerfield Run, Rocky Hill, CT. I am testifying against this bill.

While I am unable to attend the Public Hearing, I would like my opinion to be considered.

As a consumer in the State of Connecticut, I see this bill as an unnecessary government burden that will eventually lead to higher costs for all consumers, especially when buying products through the mail. The vast majority of packaging waste in my house is corrugated cardboard, which is already recycled via the blue box bins. This is probably true for every resident in Connecticut. Every town in Connecticut has a recycling program.

A stewardship program may be appropriate for mattresses, since they can't be easily cut up by consumers, and partially used paint cans, since not everyone has a chemical processing facility in their basement. But for cardboard boxes that are already recycled in every town? This is an over reach, which will just add more unnecessary costs to the consumers, especially our poor people struggling below the poverty level. Think what it will be like for an elderly widow living on meager social security income, having to pay an extra 50 cents for her mail order prescriptions, just to support an unnecessary stewardship program. These extra costs may not be much to the millionaires of Greenwich, but is significant for our poor.

This bill will waste valuable government resources studying such concepts when more urgent budget matters and ways to improve the economy of the state should be studied.

I strongly urge you not to support this bill.

Thank you for considering my opinions.